



[Georgia Artists](#) > [Artists Rosters](#) > [Teaching Artists](#) > [Teaching Artists Roster](#)

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## Georgia Teaching Artists Registry

ARTIST	DISCIPLINE	GRADES
A Company of Friends	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5
Ah Surely Irish Music and Dance	Music, Dance	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Post-secondary
Aly Camara	Theatre/Drama, Music, Dance	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12 (program varies by age level)
Amanda Byars	Dance	9-12, Colleges and Universities, Adults
Andy Irwin	Storytelling, Music, Theatre/Drama, Creative Writing	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Arietha Lockhart	Music, Coaching Music Performance	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adult Teachers
Atlanta Chinese Dance Company	Dance	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College and University, Adults, Seniors
Barry Stewart Mann	Storytelling, Theatre/Drama, Puppetry	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, University, Teacher Professional Development
Brien Engel	Music	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Cathy Kaemmerlen	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
CORE Performance Company	Dance	3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Courtnee Miles	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling Creative Writing	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5
Damon Young	Theatre/Drama, Puppetry, Storytelling, Music	K-2, 3-5, 6-8
Dave Holland	Storytelling, Music, Theatre/Drama, Rhythm Based Programming	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Debi West	Visual Art, Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Creative Writing	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Staff Development Leadership Workshops
Dixie Lee Hedrington	Visual Art	3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adults
Georgia Ensemble Theatre	Theatre/Drama, Creative Writing	K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Home School

Gladius	Music	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Gregor Turk	Visual Art	3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Horizon Theatre	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Creative Writing	6-8, 9-12
James McGaw	Music, History of Colonial Period Musical Instruments	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8
Jeff Mather	Visual Art, Media Arts, Digital Storytelling, Robotics	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Jerry G. White	Theatre/Drama, Puppetry, Storytelling, Music, Creative Writing, Poetry/Spoken Word	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
J'miah Nabawi	Storytelling, Music, Theatre/Drama, Social Studies/American History, Creative Writing, Visual Arts/Crafts	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Colleges and Universities
John Doyle	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Julie Galle Baggenstoss	Dance	K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, college
Kay Rosenblum	Storytelling, Theatre/Drama	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8
Kevin "Khao" Cates	Music, Storytelling	3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College
Kimberly Simms	Creative Writing, Poetry/Spoken Word, Theatre/Drama	K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Lauren Pallotta Stumberg	Visual Art	K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Lydia Bolen	Theatre/Drama, Digital Filmmaking	3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Marquice L. Williams	Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Creative Writing, Theatre/Drama, Performance Coach	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Teacher Development
Michael Levine	Music, Storytelling	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5
Moving in the Spirit	Dance, Creative Youth Development	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Myrna Clayton	Music, Coaching Music Performance	3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College/University Students, ADA/Special Needs
Najaa Young	Theatre/Drama, Media Arts, Dance, Creative Writing, Storytelling	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adults
Nichole Hamilton	Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Theatre/Drama	college
Pam Beagle-Daresta	Visual Arts	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Paula Larke	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Music, Dance, Creative Writing, Poetry/Spoken Word, collaboration with mimes	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adult Ed, GED, etc
Piccadilly Puppets	Puppetry	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5
Ramatu Afegbua-Sabbatt	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Music, Dance	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, University
Randy Taylor	Visual Art, Theatre/Drama, architecture	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, college, adults (teachers)

Sasikala Penumarthi	Dance, Storytelling, Theatre/Drama	3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College Students
Sean Driscoll	Storytelling, Media Arts, Poetry/Spoken Word, Theatre/Drama, Creative Writing, Puppetry	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Serenbe Playhouse	Visual Art, Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Music	K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Sharna Fulton	Visual Art, Entrepreneurship, Media Arts, Creative Writing	K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
Trelani Duncan	Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Creative Writing	1-5, 6-8, 9-12
Wendy Bennett	Music, Theatre/Drama, Storytelling	Pre-K, K-2, 3-4



### A Company of Friends

**Contact:**

Phone: (770) 599-0051  
 Cell: 404-316-7787  
 Email: [acofdirector1@gmail.com](mailto:acofdirector1@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://www.acofproductions.com/>

**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Storytelling

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

**Summary Description:**

A Company of Friends (ACOF) Educational Productions Professional Troupe has been touring Georgia libraries, schools, and children's events since 1999, bringing high quality, interactive, musical, and learning experiences to thousands of children annually. ACOF was a Teaching Artist with Arts for Learning and Young Audiences of Atlanta. The professionals working with ACOF have more than 35 years of experience in children's theatre performance, drama workshop instruction, and curriculum creation. They also have more than 30 years of experience serving in the role of private children's theatre acting coach. Members of the troupe include two former teachers, the creator of a special needs theatre program for high school students in California, music theatre camp directors, instructors for more than 25 years, and former Arts for Learning teaching artists.

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[Back to top](#)

### Ah Surely Irish Music and Dance

**Contact:**

John Maschinot  
 Phone: (678) 595-8939  
 Email: [celticcompany@gmail.com](mailto:celticcompany@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://www.ahsurely.com>

**Disciplines:**

Music, Dance

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Post-secondary

**Summary Description:**

Irish lore, history, and culture come alive as the Ah Surely trio weaves traditional Irish music and step dance together into an interactive foot-tapping, hand-clapping presentation. Students are fascinated by unusual instruments such as the uilleann pipes (a quieter cousin of the Scottish Highland bagpipes), bodhran (hand drum), fiddle, penny whistle, and guitar. And everyone can participate in using the universal musical instrument – the human voice – with lively traditional songs. For the climax of each program, a number of students join the band for an Irish ceili (music and dance party) on stage, either “jamming” with the band or learning and dancing a simple Irish jig step. Ah Surely has performed interactive programs for schools, community arts programs, and corporate events throughout Georgia, including Spivey Hall’s Young People’s Concert Series, The Rialto Center for the Arts, and for the Oscar N. Jonas Foundation’s Artist in Residency program.

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[Back to top](#)

**Aly Camara****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 909-3059  
 Email: [africanperformingarts@yahoo.com](mailto:africanperformingarts@yahoo.com)  
 Website: <http://www.africanperformingarts.org>

**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Music, Dance

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12 (program varies by age level)

**Summary Description:**

Aly Camara is a master drummer from West Africa (Guinea). He excels in traditional West African musical

arrangements and performs on Djembe, dundun, sangban, gongoma, and Krin. In his programs, Aly shares the cultural background and importance of traditional music and dance. He also plays drums for West African dancers. Aly provides artistic leadership to Sehwe Village Percussion. He teaches annually at several African drum and dance camps and teaches weekly classes and frequent residencies. He also leads an annual summer African dance series at Youth Villages in Douglasville, GA. He has a very patient style focused on sharing and carrying forward the traditions of West African culture.

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[Back to top](#)

---



**Amanda Byars**

**Contact:**

Phone: (404) 694-8255  
 Email: [byars30@gmail.com](mailto:byars30@gmail.com)  
 Website: <https://amandabyars.wordpress.com>

**Disciplines:**

Dance

**Grade Levels:**

9-12, Colleges and Universities, Adults

**Summary Description:**

Amanda Byars is a dancer, choreographer, educator, and administrator. She currently serves as an Adjunct Professor of Dance at Agnes Scott College, in addition to working as Moving in the Spirit's Program Design and Curriculum Specialist. She holds a B.F.A. in Dance from the University of Massachusetts, a M.F.A. in Dance from the Ohio State University, certifications in Pilates and Labanotation, and is a certified Elementary Labanotation teacher trainer. Her choreography has been performed across the United States, from Portland, Oregon, to New York City. Since moving to the Atlanta area, she has presented work and performed at the Mint Gallery, Skwirlhaus, the Atlanta Ballet's Small Plates series, the Beam Theater, and Synchronicity Theater. As an educator, Amanda has presented at many workshops and conferences, the most recent include the National Dance Education Organization Annual Conference and the Woodruff Arts Center's Educators Conference.

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[Back to top](#)

---



**Andy Irwin**

**Contact:**

Phone: (770) 641-1260 x223

Email: [bookings@get.org](mailto:bookings@get.org)

Website: <http://get.org/get-arts-education/>

**Disciplines:**

Storytelling, Music, Theatre/Drama, Creative Writing

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

One of the most in-demand storytellers in the United States, Andy has been Artist-in-Residence in Theatre at Emory University's Oxford College since 1991. Among a bunch of other places, Andy has performed at LaGuardia High School of Performing Arts in New York (The FAME! School), The Library of Congress, Walt Disney World, and The National Storytelling Festival. He is a perennial favorite of the Teller-in Residence program at the International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough, Tennessee. Andy is a recipient of the National Storytelling Network's ORACLE Circle of Excellence Award. Andy grew up and still lives in Covington, Georgia. He thinks he is funny.

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[Back to top](#)



**Arietha Lockhart**

**Contact:**

Phone: (404) 291-5162

Email: [ariethalockhart@gmail.com](mailto:ariethalockhart@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.ariethalockhart.com>

**Disciplines:**

Music, Coaching Music Performance

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adult Teachers

**Summary Description:**

Arietha Lockhart, was the voice of the White Butterfly during the Opening Ceremonies of the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. She is a long-time Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus member and was selected as soloist numerous times by the late Robert Shaw. She champions works by contemporary American composers in recitals and concerts. Arietha has a Bachelor and Master of Science,

and Education Specialist Degree, in Music Education. She holds the Georgia Professional Education Certificate - Retired. She has completed Level I, II and III in Orff Schulwerk. She had a 30-year career as an Elementary Music Specialist Pre-K-7 and served on leadership committees developing Professional Development for Music Teachers. She seeks to serve schools as an outside ear and eye for the progress of their programs and for judging student auditions. Her philosophy is: Singing music brings joy and self-knowledge. It can open up avenues for dialog and mutual understanding.

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[Back to top](#)

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### Atlanta Chinese Dance Company

**Contact:**

Phone: (770) 449-9953

Email: [atlantachinesedance@comcast.net](mailto:atlantachinesedance@comcast.net)

Website: <http://www.atlantachinesedance.org>

**Disciplines:**

Dance

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College and University, Adults, Seniors

**Summary Description:**

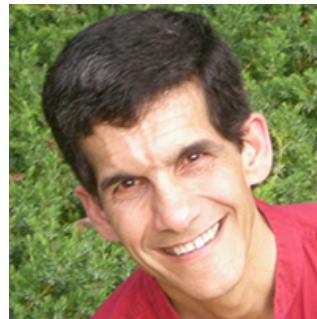
Founded in 1991 by Hwee-Eng Y. Lee, the Atlanta Chinese Dance Company educates and entertains audiences about Chinese history and culture through the art of Chinese dance. The company helped showcase Atlanta to the world as performers in the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1996 Olympic Games and has presented eighteen original productions in Atlanta over the years, enchanting Chinese and non-Chinese audiences alike. For more than ten years ACDC presented the "Chinese Variation" in Atlanta Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker" at The Fox Theatre.

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[Back to top](#)

---

### Barry Stewart Mann

**Contact:**

Cell: 404-484-9446

Email: [barrystewartmann@hotmail.com](mailto:barrystewartmann@hotmail.com)Website: [barrystewartmann.com](http://barrystewartmann.com)**Disciplines:**

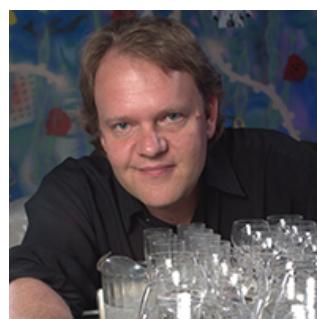
Storytelling, Theatre/Drama, Puppetry

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, University, Teacher Professional Development

**Summary Description:**

Barry Stewart Mann is an actor and storyteller based in Atlanta. He holds a B.A. in English from Harvard University, and an M.F.A. in Theatre from the University of San Diego. Barry has been teaching about drama and storytelling for almost as long as he has been an actor and storyteller. Over the years, he has been a roster teaching and performing artist with the Alliance Theatre, Georgia Wolf Trap, the Atlanta Partnership for Arts in Learning, the Teaching Museum, Young Audiences, the California Playwrights Project, the San Diego Institute for Arts Education, and the Old Globe Theatre.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Brien Engel****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 633-9322

Email: [glasssharp@mindspring.com](mailto:glasssharp@mindspring.com)Website: <http://www.glasssharp.org>**Disciplines:**

Music

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Brien Engel is an explorer of unusual sounds coaxed out of everyday objects. His main passion is the glass harp, an instrument comprised of 50 wine glasses, which he plays by gliding his fingers across their rims. This enchanting art form dates back to the 18th century, and Brien is one of very few modern practitioners. His repertoire includes pieces by Mozart, Bach, and Haydn, as well as popular standards, movie tunes, ice cream truck songs, and the occasional heavy metal request. In

addition to lots of music, Brien incorporates the physics of the glass harp and science of sound principles. He also plays musical saw, bottles, singing bowls, and introduces Ben Franklin's invention (and the first American musical instrument), the glass armonica. Brien's show is full of audience involvement as well. This unique presentation has earned acclaim all over the country by countless students, teachers, and parents.

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[Back to top](#)

---



**Cathy Kaemmerlen**

**Contact:**

Phone: (678) 909-6099  
 Email: [tattlingtales@aol.com](mailto:tattlingtales@aol.com)  
 Website: <http://www.tattlingtales.com>

**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Storytelling

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Cathy Kaemmerlen, author, actress, historical interpreter, playwright, and storyteller, is known for her variety of characters, one-woman shows, and for bringing history to life for over 8,000 school and community performances. A performer and "creator of shows" since she can remember, she tours around 20 current shows which she wrote. She has a B.A. in English and Elementary Education from the University of North Carolina and an M.F.A. in Dance Performance and Choreography from the University of Wisconsin. Most recently she was commissioned by the Plains Chautauqua Society to produce "A Journey with Rosalynn Carter." She premiered the children's version, "Rosie and the Butterfly," in summer 2016. Cathy's mission is to help students realize that history is made up of the stories of ordinary people who have faced extraordinary times and have excelled. The lowest test scores are often social studies scores because history is taught as a memorization course. Cathy wants students to make connections and see how one historical event affects the next.

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[Back to top](#)

---

**CORE Performance Company**

**Contact:**

Phone: (404) 373-4154

Email: [outreach@coredance.org](mailto:outreach@coredance.org)Website: <http://www.coredance.org>**Disciplines:**

Dance

**Grade Levels:**

3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

In 1980, Sue Schroeder founded CORE Performance Company to create and perform innovative contemporary dance. Always collaborating, examining, and re-inventing, Schroeder creates CORE's internationally acclaimed performances and residencies. Guided by a strong sense of public responsibility, CORE uses dance to teach, question, connect, heal, and inspire, introducing students to dance and the process of creativity through movement. CORE Performance Company has extensive experience with students, elders, and populations-in-isolation. Programs accommodate varying numbers of participants and all levels of movement experience, ages, abilities, and need. Communities and schools more than 100 miles from metro Atlanta are encouraged to partner with each other to defray cost of overnight stays and for reduced fees. For residencies, we require five-day engagements. Please contact CORE to create an ideal residency for your community and ask about curriculum tie-ins, assessments, and arts integration trainings.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Courtnee Miles****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 824-7409

Email: [courtnee.miles@gmail.com](mailto:courtnee.miles@gmail.com)**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Creative Writing

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

**Summary Description:**

At a young age, Courtnee MeShon Miles knew the stage was calling her name. She had her first dance recital at

the age of four years old, and ever since then, she's been hooked. Paired with her love of writing, Courtnee knew that directing plays opened her eyes to a new aspect of theatre, expanding her passion for the craft. After obtaining her Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast Journalism with a minor in Theatre, she was featured in an independent film and a web series. Courtnee is currently a Teaching Artist at various theatres in the metro-Atlanta area, such as the Alliance Theatre, Serenbe Playhouse, the Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County, Jitterbug Performing Arts, and more.

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[Back to top](#)

---



**Damon Young**

**Contact:**

Phone: (678) 575-0993

Email: [damon@theaterartsandpuppets.com](mailto:damon@theaterartsandpuppets.com)

Website: <http://theaterartsandpuppets.com/>

**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Puppetry, Storytelling, Music

**Grade Levels:**

K-2, 3-5, 6-8

**Summary Description:**

Damon Young is a teaching artist and performer specializing in collaborative theater arts and shadow puppet performance. Damon partners with teachers and kids to design fun educational theatrical experiences. Puppetry strengthens cooperation, creativity, and empathy, as well as being a medium of storytelling and learning. Kids in Damon's programs collaborate to create a hands-on community performance with music, voice, movement, and puppetry.

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[Back to top](#)

---



**Dave Holland**

**Contact:**

Phone: (404) 819-4053  
 Email: [dave@beatinpathrhythmevents.com](mailto:dave@beatinpathrhythmevents.com)  
 Website: [beatinpathrhythmevents.com/](http://beatinpathrhythmevents.com/)

**Disciplines:**

Storytelling, Music, Theatre/Drama, Rhythm Based Programming

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Dave Holland is a dynamic performer, teaching artist and interactive rhythm facilitator. Since 2001, Dave has been an active member of the Atlanta arts in education community. He's presented arts-integrated programs on behalf of the Georgia Council for the Arts, Young Audiences, Arts Now, the Fulton County Teaching Museum, as well as his own company, Beatin' Path Rhythm Events. As a life-long rhythmatist Dave uses a wide palette of percussion to create compelling, curriculum-based programs in the areas of storytelling, sound and science, character education, and cultural appreciation. Filled with endless energy, constant curiosity, and a love for learning, Dave's assembly programs, workshops, and drum circles are always engaging, educational and fun.

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[Back to top](#)

---



**Debi West**

**Contact:**

Phone: (404) 915-7888  
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 Website: [https://naea.digication.com/artstuff/ArTY\\_UpDaTEs/published](https://naea.digication.com/artstuff/ArTY_UpDaTEs/published)

**Disciplines:**

Visual Art, Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Creative Writing

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Staff Development Leadership Workshops

**Summary Description:**

Debi has been teaching children through the visual arts for 24 years in Gwinnett County. She spent 14 years at the elementary level and the last 10 years at the secondary level. She also owns the Crystal Collage Children's Art Studio where she teaches children in summer camps and weekend classes from the ages of 5 and up. Debi teaches all forms of visual art and specifically loves working with teachers, helping them with Project-Based Learning and bringing in creative lesson planning to their curricula. She is looking forward to working with K-12 teachers and students via hands-on workshops, interactive projects, teacher/staff development activities, and bringing arts integration to the schools of Georgia because she knows, first hand, that it truly works.

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[Back to top](#)

**Dixie Lee Hedrington****Contact:**

Phone: (305) 469-6009 or (229) 683-0015  
 Email: [cofriendsandstars@gmail.com](mailto:cofriendsandstars@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://www.artsanddisabilities.org>

**Disciplines:**

Visual Art

**Grade Levels:**

3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adults

**Summary Description:**

Dixie Lee Hedrington, a professional artist, quickly found there were limited creative outlets for people with disabilities when looking for enriching activities for her son, who is deaf. With a desire to create change, she founded Friends & Stars Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to enhancing the well-being of special needs children and adults through inclusive arts programs. By providing individualized attention specific to each student's needs in an environment of acceptance, Dixie and her team help them discover their unique artistic expression. She also works with museums and public spaces to display her students' pieces. Through her efforts, participants gain confidence and pride, and many have gone on to pursue a career in the arts. Dixie's talent and passion for teaching demonstrates that limitations can be conquered when you are willing to try.

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[Back to top](#)

---

**Georgia Ensemble Theater****Contact:**

Phone: (770) 641-1260  
 Email: [education@get.org](mailto:education@get.org)  
 Website: <http://get.org>

**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Creative Writing

**Grade Levels:**

K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Home School

**Summary Description:**

The mission of Georgia Ensemble Theatre (GET) is to

provide excellent professional theatre experiences to captivate the current generation of theatre-goers and nurture future generations. We fulfill this mission through the selfless ensemble collaboration of our artists, audiences, and students. In all of our classes, workshops, and residencies we strive to develop collaborative learners who support one another. We learn to "fail with pride" so that we can grow as individuals and learn from our mistakes. As an organization, "selfless ensemble collaboration" means that the best idea wins, no matter where the idea comes from. GET employs a team of amazing teaching artists who engage students in the classroom throughout the school year with our Literacy through Drama: From the Page to the Stage workshops, in-class residencies, and Theatre for Young Audiences productions, led by GET Education Director, Laurel Crowe.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Gladius**

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Phone: (404) 372-0007  
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 Website: <http://gladiusmusic.com/>

**Disciplines:**

Music

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

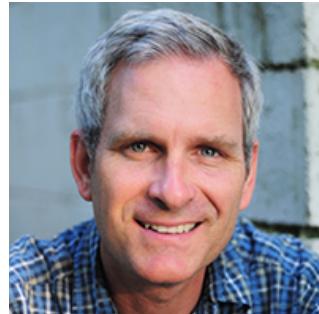
**Summary Description:**

Inspired by the great composers, Spanish guitar maestros, and much more, this musical mad scientist fuses those elements into a refreshing formula—evoking the Spanish spirit, yet distinctly unorthodox. Since studying under the late Georgia State University Professor (and Andres Segovia protégée) John Sutherland, Gladius has taught guitar lessons and classes (one-on-one and group lessons) since 2006 in a variety of settings including private in-home lessons, music stores, local recreation centers, after-school programs. More than a fabulous performer and award-winning composer, listeners have called Gladius a miracle in the making – the guitarist has prevailed over a crippling case of nerve damage which greatly hindered the dexterity of both hands, and could have easily ended the musician's career. Gladius perseveres: relentlessly touring, recording, inspiring audiences of all ages, and winning numerous composition awards such as the Driven Creativity Competition and Music Composition Contest, among others.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Gregor Turk****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 217-8668

Email: [info@gregorturk.com](mailto:info@gregorturk.com)Website: <http://gregorturk.com>**Disciplines:**

Visual Art

**Grade Levels:**

3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Known for his public art installations, sculpture, photography, and mixed-media constructions, Gregor Turk often incorporates mapping imagery, cultural markings, and place making into his artwork. Through a variety of media, he focuses on the fundamental qualities of mapping: the mysteriousness, inherent biases, cultural authoritativeness, and ability to simultaneously represent and distort reality. Gregor has permanent public art installations in airports, parks, a public library, and a fire station. He received his B.A. from Rhodes College and his M.F.A. from Boston University. Between degrees, he served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Liberia. His involvement in the visual arts in Atlanta includes additional capacities: educator, administrator, advocate, panelist, and policy advisor. Since 1989, he has conducted numerous workshops and residencies as a teaching artist through GCA's Arts-in-Education program and Young Audiences. Most of these student programs have included a map-making (typically sculptural) component that is tied to the social studies curriculum.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Horizon Theatre****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 523-1477

Email: [amelia@horizontheatre.com](mailto:amelia@horizontheatre.com)Website: <http://www.horizontheatre.com>**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Creative Writing

**Grade Levels:**

6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Horizon Theatre Company's mission is to connect people, inspire hope, and promote positive change through the stories of our times. We seek to inspire, celebrate, and build bridges between diverse audiences and to ignite new artists and audiences with a passion for theatre that connects to their lives. Horizon Theatre is committed to connecting diverse communities, while empowering the next generation of artists and art supporters. The residency program cultivates writing skills, creativity, collaboration, self-awareness, confidence, and knowledge of theatre as an art form in participating students. The program gives access to the arts and teaches discipline, teamwork, analytical thinking, and problem solving to young people. The Playwriting Residency also introduces playwriting as a writing form that many students are not familiar with through standard curriculum. The Residencies also allow students to engage in an art form that encourages and develops group work, collaboration, and decision making —key components to a 21st-century education and workplace readiness.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**James McGaw****Contact:**

Phone: (912) 349-5616

Email: [hamrdul@comcast.net](mailto:hamrdul@comcast.net)Website: <https://hammerjam.bandpage.com>**Disciplines:**

Music, History of Colonial Period Musical Instruments

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8

**Summary Description:**

Jim McGaw grew up in Southeastern Ohio where he found a rich heritage at the crossroads of American mountain and country music. He has been performing and composing music for over 45 years. His music has been used for Emmy Award winning documentary films and commercial advertisements as well as interpreted by various performers throughout the U.S. He costumes for and specializes in U.S. colonial period reenactment and gives seminars and workshops in the instruments of his specialty. As a teacher, including part-time teaching, Jim taught Pre-K through 5th grade elementary music in the Dearing Elementary School in Dearing, Georgia, for 25 years. During this time he developed a specialized computer-based curriculum for teaching elementary students to read and play music. When combined with the middle and high school band programs in Jim's locale his multi-modal learning approach produced a number of top flight professional and non-professional musicians.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Jeff Mather****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 578-5448

Email: [mathersiteart@bellsouth.net](mailto:mathersiteart@bellsouth.net)Website: <http://www.facebook.com/mathersiteart>**Disciplines:**

Visual Art, Media Arts, Digital Storytelling, Robotics

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Jeff is a community-based public artist and multi-disciplinary teaching artist. He has conducted site sculpture residencies and directed public art projects all over Georgia. He is board president of the Atlanta Partnership for Arts in Learning (APAL). He is the STEAM Artist-in-Residence at Drew Charter School for 45 days each semester, where he co-teaches project-based learning units in K-12. His partnership work at Drew has been featured by GPB and Edutopia. Jeff was digital storytelling coach for nine years at the South Atlanta School of Law and Social Justice and he has created digital storytelling programs for the Woodruff Art Center, for APAL, and at Drew Charter. He has directed experimental theater productions at the Center for Puppetry Arts and served as artist-in-residence for the Atlanta Symphony and the High Museum. Jeff has served as an artist-in-residence at over 150 schools.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Jerry G. White****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 263-2443

Email: [jerrygwhite1@gmail.com](mailto:jerrygwhite1@gmail.com)Website: <http://www.aperformancemethod.com/>

<b>Disciplines:</b>	Theatre/Drama, Puppetry, Storytelling, Music, Creative Writing, Poetry/Spoken Word
<b>Grade Levels:</b>	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
<b>Summary Description:</b>	<p>Jerry G. White's artistic philosophy is to always inspire imagination and creativity in everyone who will see his performances. His performance mantra is "Bring the words to life." As an Imaginator, which is the performing teaching artist arm of the Children's Museum of Atlanta, Jerry has had the pleasure of developing interactive programming, directing 20-minute musicals, including "Get Curious!," "Turn the Mystery into History," "Beebo and Ravioli's Spectacular Circus," and "Georgia's History Alive...Read On!," and writing 20-minute musicals "A Better Me...A Better You!," "Sharpestone's Treasure," "Georgia Grown," and "Peach State Flyer." He is a new member of the artist roster of the Fulton County Schools Teaching Museum. He has a B.A. in Speech and Theater from Newberry College in Newberry, SC. His performance company is A Performance Method, which allows him to incorporate acting, music, singing, songwriting, and percussion instruments in each and every one of his performances.</p>

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[Back to top](#)

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**J'miah Nabawi**

<b>Contact:</b>	Phone: (912) 271-8661 Email: <a href="mailto:talltales@jmiahnabawi.com">talltales@jmiahnabawi.com</a> Website: <a href="http://jmiahnabawi.com/">http://jmiahnabawi.com/</a>
<b>Disciplines:</b>	Storytelling, Music, Theatre/Drama, Social Studies/American History, Creative Writing, Visual Arts/Crafts
<b>Grade Levels:</b>	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Colleges and Universities
<b>Summary Description:</b>	<p>J'miah Nabawi is an award-winning, multi-faceted storyteller. His upbeat storytelling reflects the story-dance-musical storytelling drama found in many parts of Africa and its diaspora. J'miah also tells and adapts stories from around the world. Through his presentations, he has often served as cultural ambassador, program host, and parent engagement facilitator at various venues presenting culturally entertaining, family-friendly, children's programs and educational workshops. Bilingual in Spanish and a polyglot of sorts, J'miah is known to incorporate story-specific phrases, greetings, songs and text in Japanese; Yoruba; Gullah; French; Russian; Twi; Ki-Swahili; Chinese and other languages as a form of inclusion and to make deeper connections with immigrant</p>

communities, children and families whose mother-tongue is other than English. J'miah has shared his brand of high-spirited storytelling across the U.S. and Mexico in schools, art, history and science museums, colleges and universities. The Founder of Savannah Storyfest, an arts-based historic Savannah walking tour company, J'miah brings Georgia's history to life in the historic characters and representations of George Leile (his life from 1750's through 1784), America's first licensed and ordained African American Baptist Minister, Les Chasseurs Volontaires de Saint Domingue: The Haitians participation in the American Revolution, and Quashee Alice, the Gullah-Geechee connection to Michael Row de Boat Ashore, the peanut, and the Great Migration in America. Awarded by the National Storytelling Network (NSN) in Jonesborough, TN, J'miah is also an esteemed recipient of the "ORACLE Award for Outstanding Service and Leadership, Southeast Region," for the contributions he has made to his community through the art of storytelling.

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[Back to top](#)

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**John Doyle**

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[doyleson@yahoo.com](mailto:doyleson@yahoo.com)  
 Website: <http://www.jdae.com/>

**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Storytelling

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

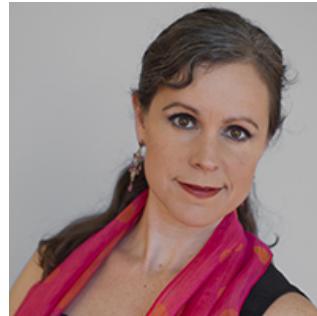
**Summary Description:**

John Doyle first started training in theatre in college while attending Morehouse College from 1992-97. He took acting classes at Clark-Atlanta University, where he trained under Carol Mitchell Leon and Whitman Mayo. He then continued his training by taking improv classes and eventually joining an improv troupe. During that time, he started learning about the craft of storytelling and creating solo shows. Since that time, artistically, John has combined those different facets of theatre to create one-man shows for school performances. He believes art is used for us to communicate, explore, and share. His passion is in the arts, education, and community building. He uses the creative arts to give youth the opportunity and space to explore, analyze, and express themselves, their environment, and their choices. John has worked as a teaching artist with Alliance Theatre, Kaiser Permanente Educational Theatre, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, and TLC, a juvenile diversion program that is part of Fulton County courts

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[Back to top](#)

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**Julie Galle Baggenstoss****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 277-1499  
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Website: <http://www.berdole.com>

**Disciplines:**

Dance

**Grade Levels:**

K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, college

**Summary Description:**

Spain, Africa, Asia, and Latin America come together in interactive programs based on the art of Flamenco. Programs celebrate the cultures that blended in the making of this exciting art form, and the culture of Spain that is at its core. Students dance, sing, stomp, and clap with Flamenco artists – and each other – as they learn about the history of Spain on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Through original research, teaching artist Julie Galle Baggenstoss brings centuries-old traditions into contemporary lives in lessons that cross the arts with curriculum standards in literacy, history, Spanish language, and teamwork. With professional training as both a Flamenco dancer and a teaching artist, Ms. Baggenstoss has presented programs across Georgia for over 15 years, for clients such as the Woodruff Arts Center, the Rialto Center for the Arts, Georgia Public Libraries, school systems, and universities.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Kay Rosenblum****Contact:**

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Website: <http://www.georgiacommoncorelearning.com>

**Disciplines:**

Storytelling, Theatre/Drama

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8

**Summary Description:**

I have been a teaching artist and storyteller since 1985 after I graduated from Florida State University and completed a year as an intern at the Alliance Theatre. My first teaching artist residency was at Fort Benning and I have since visited many towns and cities in Georgia, as well as schools in the Atlanta area. My goal in a Classroom Acting Workshop is to provide an environment for students to achieve an understanding of events, facts, and significant people, as well as explore aspects of their own creativity, language skills, powers of observation, concentration, and memory. I believe what they experience by using acting techniques can have lifetime benefits. I use a variety of stage techniques in my storytelling performances, including magical illusions, puppets, drawing stories, audience participation, and humor. As a performer, I hope to unite the audience and provide a shared, focused experience.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Kevin "Khao" Cates****Contact:**

Phone: 888) 249-0427  
 Email: [info@bridgedagap.com](mailto:info@bridgedagap.com)  
 Website: <http://www.bridgedagap.org>

**Disciplines:**

Music, Storytelling

**Grade Levels:**

3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College

**Summary Description:**

With over 30 million combined records sold, multi-platinum, Grammy-nominated producer Kevin "Khao" Cates has revolutionized the sound of Hip-Hop by producing sounds and melodies that cross various genres of music. Cates is the founder of Bridge DA Gap Movement, Inc. (BDG), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that uses music to enhance the social-emotional development of youth in character building principles, life skills, and self-regulation. BDG proposes to solve the two greatest problems educators face: "How do we get students engaged and excited about learning again?" and "How do we address students' social-emotional needs in and out of the classroom so that our youth can focus on the academic tasks at hand?" BDG is designed to meet students where they are and teach them. Khao has over eight years of success implementing principles from the curriculum in schools in the U.S. and the Bahamas and has been a guest lecturer at numerous universities.

[Read More >](#)

[Back to top](#)

---

**Kimberly Simms****Contact:**

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Website: <http://www.kimberlysimms.com>

**Disciplines:**

Creative Writing, Poetry/Spoken Word, Theatre/Drama

**Grade Levels:**

K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Kimberly Simms is a first generation American, a writer, a mother, and an educator. Her teaching is influenced not only by her creative writing credentials, but also by her experience as an award-winning slam poet and trained actress. Her first full-length poetry collection, *Lindy Lee: Songs on Mill Hill*, is forthcoming from Finishing Line Press in 2017 and ties in with Common Core history standards. A current Pushcart Prize nominee, Kimberly's poetry has been featured in over thirty literary journals and magazines. Kimberly Simms offers the following unique services: research-based creative writing; vocabulary building activities to create context for Social Studies, Reading, and Science; the Writing Process as explained by a published author; figurative language and imagery scaffolding for every level of writer; and brain breaks including tableau theater activities to help students focus, explore their creativity, as well as to access prior knowledge and make inferences. Recently, she has also facilitated teacher PD workshops.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)

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**Lauren Pallotta Stumberg****Contact:**

Phone: (770) 557-2057  
Email: [lauren@thinkgreatly.com](mailto:lauren@thinkgreatly.com)  
Website: <http://www.thinkgreatly.com>

**Disciplines:** Visual Art**Grade Levels:** K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Lauren uses her creative offerings in the public realm to amplify neighborhoods and communities. In this way, she engages with groups on how they want to express their collective voice through art and facilitates the process to ensure its successful development and implementation. Her fine art, which honors the human experience through abstracted symbols and portraiture as a means of storytelling, is represented by dk Gallery in Marietta, GA.

**Summary Description:** Lauren has a BFA in Graphic Design from the University of Michigan. She earned a Post Graduate diploma with the University of the South Pacific in Education through the lens of Integrated Arts and Culture. She taught English Language Learners in the Marshall Islands for five years and was a certified ELL teacher in Medford, Massachusetts from 2005-2008. She finds that the strategies for being a good teacher for English Language Learners are the same as being a good teacher in general: understanding your students' background knowledge, having cultural competence, and having empathy for various learning styles through differentiated instruction.

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[Back to top](#)

---



**Lydia Bolen**

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Website:

**Disciplines:** Theatre/Drama, Digital Filmmaking

**Grade Levels:** 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:** Lydia Bolen is a Teaching Artist in the art of digital filmmaking. She is also a filmmaker, actor, and producer. Lydia holds a BA in Film and Video from Georgia State University. She has worked on numerous productions, including independent films and theatre, as well as movies and series for national television. Lydia's approach as an artist is to let the participants learn by doing. She creates an atmosphere of creative safety where the goal is to try something new and, whether there is success or temporary failure, there is learning. Lydia presents at education forums, including STEAM presentations on digital media, and is currently developing and producing a web series. Lydia has been on the roster at Arts for Learning-Woodruff Arts Center and also leads summer camps in digital filmmaking. Her

mission is to teach young people the basics of the art of filmmaking.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Marquice L. Williams**

**Contact:**

Phone: (912) 678-9503  
Email: [ChosenArtists@gmail.com](mailto:ChosenArtists@gmail.com)

**Disciplines:**

Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Creative Writing, Theatre/Drama, Performance Coach

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Teacher Development

**Summary Description:**

Marquice L. Williams is known for his captivating spoken word poetry, engaging hip hop performances, inviting DJ sets, witty hosting skills, and nonstop dedication to creating safe spaces where any individual can tell their truth. When he is off the stage, you can find him mentoring, teaching performance poetry workshops, and diving into critical literacy at schools and organizations in Georgia and nationwide. Marquice's roots in the arts dig back to age six when he landed his first role with the Sankofa Theater Company as the tap dance kid. From there, Williams could be seen performing on WSAV a few Saturday mornings a month alongside Magic Marc as a young magician's assistant. Marquice stepped out into the world as a spoken word artist by joining the Spitfire Poetry Group's Junior Company (Spitfire JuCo), and began performing on stages across the country. This led to him opening for acts such as comedians Marcus D. Wiley, Jonathan Slocumb, and more. After the passing of his performance coach and mentor, Clinton D. Powell, this young artist then began his journey as a co-director of The Spitfire Poetry Group. While co-leading one of Savannah's premier spoken word troupes, he helps organize consistent community events and platforms for all ages, continues an annual weeklong Savannah Spoken Word Festival in honor of National Poetry Month, assists Georgia artists, businesses, and organizations with creating forums and showcases, as well as advocating for the many stories that go unheard.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Michael Levine**

**Contact:**

Phone: (404) 992-0420

Email: [miclevine24@gmail.com](mailto:miclevine24@gmail.com)Website: [www.michaellevine.net](http://www.michaellevine.net)**Disciplines:**

Music, Storytelling

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

**Summary Description:**

"Mr. Michael" Levine is the co-founder of The Learning Groove music and movement company. He also is the music producer of the first four New York Times bestselling Pete The Cat books by Eric Litwin and James Dean. He regularly performs Pete The Cat stories and Learning Groove songs at concerts, workshops, and keynotes throughout the nation. As a singer-songwriter, he has won many awards and has opened for such acts as Dave Matthews Band, Counting Crows, Live, Joe Walsh, and many more. As a performer for children, he plays guitar and uses the latest technology to demonstrate how interactivity can make reading and music inspiring for kids.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Moving in the Spirit****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 694-8255

Email: [amanda@movinginthespirit.org](mailto:amanda@movinginthespirit.org)Website: <http://www.movinginthespirit.org/>**Disciplines:**

Dance, Creative Youth Development

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Moving in the Spirit is a nationally-recognized youth development program that uses the art of dance to positively transform the lives of children and teens in Atlanta, Georgia. Through programs that integrate high-quality dance instruction with performance, leadership, and mentor opportunities, Moving in the Spirit impacts over 200 children and teens annually, encouraging them to overcome the obstacles they face each day and

realize their highest potential. Students graduate from Moving in the Spirit with confidence in themselves as artists and leaders, poised to succeed beyond the stage and make a difference in their own communities. Ultimately, Moving in the Spirit educates, inspires, and unites young people through dance, propelling them to become successful and compassionate leaders. The company shares their work through performances and workshops available throughout the Metro Atlanta region.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Myrna Clayton**

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 Website: <http://www.MyrnaClayton.com>

**Disciplines:**

Music, Coaching Music Performance

**Grade Levels:**

3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College/University Students, ADA/Special Needs

**Summary Description:**

Myrna Clayton is a teaching performer and international performing arts entertainer. She has performed professionally for 14+ years. Myrna, who has an MBA, enjoyed a successful corporate marketing career prior to professional singing. She currently teaches voice lessons privately and conducts master class vocal clinics when performing internationally. Her repertoire is varied, including Jazz, Pop, Soul, Gospel, RnB, and even a little Blues and Country. Internationally, Myrna has performed throughout Russia, Belarus, Germany, Nigeria, Great Britain, and France. She started a 501(c)3 nonprofit that works with singers with disabilities and books artists with disabilities for shows. She recognizes the talents and abilities in diverse groups and seeks to encourage them to come into the spotlight. Myrna believes that everyone, regardless of perceived ability, can train their voice to be flexible, powerful, and persuasive, for deeper personal fulfillment. Her goal is to help students take their craft to the next level.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Najaa Young**

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Email: [NajaaYoung@NaRaFilms.com](mailto:NajaaYoung@NaRaFilms.com)Website: <https://www.facebook.com/NajaalYoung/>**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Media Arts, Dance, Creative Writing, Storytelling

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adults

**Summary Description:**

Najaa has been a performer and multidisciplinary arts educator for over 25 years. She has taught drama, filmmaking, African dance, Afro-Caribbean/Latino dance, and creative writing for theaters, colleges, and arts programs in Los Angeles, CA, Pittsburgh, PA, and Cleveland, OH. She is a graduate of Chatham University (nee Chatham College) where she received a B.A. in Theater Arts. She also has a M.F.A. in Film Production from Florida State University's Graduate Conservatory of Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts. She has written, produced, and directed several feature films, short films, and plays over the last 15 years.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Nichole Hamilton****Contact:**

Phone: (408) 242-6349

Email: [nyhamilton@gmail.com](mailto:nyhamilton@gmail.com)Website: <http://www.nichole-hamilton.com>**Disciplines:**

Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Theatre/Drama

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adjunct Teaching: Non-majors, BFA and BA: Acting I, II and III, Oral Interpretation, Voice/Speech and Movement, Theatre Appreciation, Audition Workshop, and MFA: Voice IV

**Summary Description:**

Nichole's ultimate goal for every workshop is that each student develops an understanding of material through new and interesting creative approaches, and the ability to constructively analyze and articulate his or her work. Nichole is an actor, teacher, director, and storyteller

working in the Southeast. Most recently, Nichole taught as adjunct instructor at the University of Florida School of Theatre and Dance. She has acted, directed, and taught ages 3-50 in California, Florida, New York, Ohio, North Carolina, and Georgia in a variety of genres including improvisation, children's theatre, Shakespeare, and opera, as well as the more contemporary texts including new and devised work. Nichole holds a BA in Theatre from the University of Montevallo near Birmingham, Alabama, and an MFA in Acting from the University of Florida in Gainesville. She has twenty years of experience teaching acting at various levels. Nichole strives to set a trusting and collaborative artistic environment and meet each student at their level of learning.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Pam Beagle-Daresta**

**Contact:**

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 Website:

**Disciplines:**

Visual Art

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Currently certified as a teaching artist with the South Carolina and Mississippi Art Commissions, as well as GCA, Pam Beagle-Daresta creates engaging workshops and residency programs in printmaking, papermaking, and the book arts. Her often STEAM-related projects incorporate observation concept drawing with engineering production processes. Because nature and cultural histories inspire her own art making, her teaching offers an intrinsic alignment with arts integration. Pam's innovative process-focused programs feature learning foundation skills, support inquiry discovery learning, and promote creative risk-taking resulting in original student work. Her residencies deepen individual student learning and offer collaborative production of compilation learning projects culminating in the production of a public work of art for host institutions. Her professional development work focuses on arts-integration tools and strategies for success. Pam regularly leads in-depth professional development programs for school systems, museums, and arts councils. She recently served on the Governor's Arts Learning Task Force.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Paula Larke**

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Website: <http://paulalarke.com>

**Disciplines:**

Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Music, Dance, Creative Writing, Poetry/Spoken Word, collaboration with mimes

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adult Ed, GED, etc.

**Summary Description:**

Paula Larke's roots are both urban and rural, from Alabama and the Carolinas. She studied English Literature at Manhattanville College, music theory at Boston University, and poetry at the New School for Social Research. She acted in Broadway and Touring productions of the New York Shakespeare Festival. She tours independently throughout the U.S. as storyteller, musician, keynote speaker, and guest lecturer for educational, religious, and community development organizations. She has worked as a teaching artist and guest performer in NC colleges, churches, universities, schools, and juvenile detention facilities. Paula has delivered comedic storytelling and musical performances to all ages, advocating intergenerational, interracial, intercultural respect, cultural integrity, and social accountability. She taught music notation and fractions through drumming, life skills through dance, and drama in rural Kentucky. Her most recent work, within her local community, uses music and story-sharing as a common bond, helping to acclimate refugees in the responsibilities, legalities, logistics, and civil liberties of American democracy.

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[Back to top](#)



**Piccadilly Puppets**

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Website: <https://piccadillypuppets.org>

<b>Disciplines:</b>	Puppetry
<b>Grade Levels:</b>	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5
<b>Summary Description:</b>	<p>Piccadilly Puppets has been producing entertaining and educational puppet shows for children and families since 1969. We have been on the touring roster for GCA for many years. Each original show is well researched and incorporates Georgia Performance Standards. We often work with outside organizations. For example, our show "Butterfly Ballad" was developed with help from the butterfly center at Callaway Gardens. We also worked closely with Arts for Learning (formerly Young Audiences) for many years. We have received a Citation of Excellence from UNIMA, the leading international puppetry organization. All of our puppeteers have performing arts degrees and have performed extensively for children as well as adults, and all are trained professional puppeteers. Shows are fun, fast-paced, usually interactive, and always engaging.</p>

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[Back to top](#)

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**Ramatu Afegbua-Sabbatt**

<b>Contact:</b>	<p>Phone: (404) 993-5924  Email: <a href="mailto:ramatusabbatt@aol.com">ramatusabbatt@aol.com</a>  Website: <a href="http://mangadance.org">http://mangadance.org</a></p>
<b>Disciplines:</b>	Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Music, Dance
<b>Grade Levels:</b>	Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, University
<b>Summary Description:</b>	<p>After relocating to the U.S. from Nigeria, Ramatu Afegbua-Sabbatt single-handedly expanded the cross cultural landscape on both local and international levels when she founded the dynamic non-profit organization Manga African Dance in 1990. Featured in the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1996 Olympic Games, the company's high-energy repertoire includes dances and rhythms from all over Africa. The Annual Dance and Drum Conference was started by Afegbua-Sabbatt in 2000 and staging of the organization's signature performance, "The Annual Osun Festival," began in 1998 and continues to the present day. She began her campaign against childhood obesity in 2004, teaching healthy living through dance. Through African dance and drumming, youth learn about traditional cultures while engaging in a calorie-burning aerobic form of exercise. In 2012, she created a Black History Concert for the U.S. State Department at the U.S. Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria.</p>

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[Back to top](#)**Randy Taylor****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 931-0942  
 Email: [randydavid29@yahoo.com](mailto:randydavid29@yahoo.com)  
 Website:

**Disciplines:**

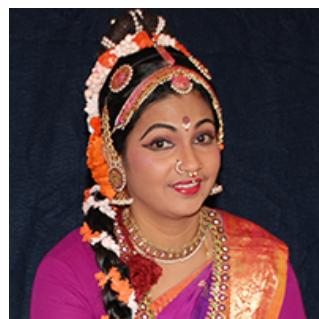
Visual Art, Theatre/Drama, Architecture

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, college, adults (teachers)

**Summary Description:**

I work in the fields of Theatre and Visual Arts, Arts Integration, Project-Based Learning, Mantle of the Expert, and STEAM. My approach starts as a collaboration with the site in identifying the content they want to cover and finding ways to use theatre and art to gain experience with this content in an authentic way. With Mantle of the Expert, students will take on the role as experts and I will take on the role as protagonist to challenge and propel them into their learning by solving problems through their expertise. With this work the participants are the audience, the actors, and the writers of the drama. Visual art is used as a way of cementing the knowledge that is gained and as a representation of the messages the participants want to convey to a wider audience. The students learn content and problem solving with compassion.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Sasikala Penumarthi****Contact:**

Phone: (404) 277-9087  
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 Website: <http://www.kuchipudi.us>

**Disciplines:**

Dance, Storytelling, Theatre/Drama

**Grade Levels:**

3-5, 6-8, 9-12, College Students

**Summary Description:**

Sasikala (Sah-SEE-ka-lah) Penumarthy is one of the foremost practitioners of classical Indian Kuchipudi dance in the world. Sasikala trained under the great Legendary Guru Vempati Chinna Satyam in the Kuchipudi art form for many years. Sasikala moved to Atlanta in 1991, and pursued training students, performing, and producing dance dramas. Sasikala founded the Academy of Kuchipudi Dance, a non-profit organization, in 1997. Sasikala is on the Georgia Arts Council State Touring Artists Roster. Sasikala's troupe presents her Guru's dramas, solo and group performances, and her own choreography, such as Swapna Vijayam, which is an adaptation of The Nutcracker. Sasikala teaches full credit semester courses in Kuchipudi at Emory University and conducts master classes and lecture-demonstrations on Kuchipudi at several universities. Sasikala served on the roster for Young Audiences and Arts For Learning-Woodruff Arts Center. She conducts classes at her studio in Suwanee and at the Hindu Temple of Atlanta in Riverdale.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Sean Driscoll****Contact:**

Phone: (912) 633-6320  
 Email: [sean@thestoryship.com](mailto:sean@thestoryship.com)  
 Website: <http://www.thestoryship.com>

**Disciplines:**

Storytelling, Media Arts, Poetry/Spoken Word,  
 Theatre/Drama, Creative Writing, Puppetry

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Sean Driscoll began performing professionally at the age of fifteen. In 1976, at the age of sixteen, he was awarded the Young Artist award in Atlanta, GA and began a long career entertaining children in schools with educational programs. Now forty years later, Sean currently tours regularly throughout the United States, performing in theaters, schools, libraries, radio, television, concert, and festival settings. Sean completed his BFA in music from Florida State University and taught classical guitar for ten years at Armstrong Atlantic University in Savannah, GA. He has been selected for hundreds of Artist in Residency programs in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina from 1990 to the present. Sean reaches thousands of children and adults each year through hundreds of residencies, workshops, and performances. He specializes in technology workshops where students create storybook mobile apps, green screen animated videos, and storytelling audio CDs.

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[Back to top](#)

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**Serenbe Playhouse****Contact:**

Phone: (770) 463-1110

Email: [education@serenbeplayhouse.com](mailto:education@serenbeplayhouse.com)Website: <http://www.serenbeplayhouse.com/>**Disciplines:**

Visual Art, Theatre/Drama, Storytelling, Music

**Grade Levels:**

K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Experience an outdoor school field trip with the most interactive and inventive of theatre companies. Located in South Fulton, Serenbe Playhouse produces immersive outdoor theatre based on famous works of literature, perfect for cross-curriculum integration and exposure to the fine arts. Students will experience lively educational productions with state-of-the-art production values and interaction with the characters, all set in the never-ending expanse of the great outdoors. These unforgettable field trips include a private talk-back and photo opportunity with actors after the performance, as well as a complimentary location for a picnic lunch (just bring blankets and a sack lunch). And for groups who want even more out of their day, schools can customize their Playhouse experience with an Interactive Workshop, organic farming tours with Serenbe Farms, or even visit the Serenbe Animal Village to hand-feed and pet the farm animals. With national recognition from The New York Times, American Theatre Magazine, Playbill, and the American Theatre Wing, Serenbe Playhouse creates some of the Southeast's most engaging and widely recognized theatre, revolutionizing the way students experience both the arts and their studies.

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**Sharna Fulton**

**Contact:**

Phone: (404) 580-8844  
 Email: [sharnafulton@gmail.com](mailto:sharnafulton@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://www.chloepink.com>

**Disciplines:**

Visual Art, Entrepreneurship, Media Arts, Creative Writing

**Grade Levels:**

K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Sharna Fulton is a teaching artist with a background in writing, visual arts, and youth empowerment. From penning McDonald's radio spots, to teaching kids art, to being a published author, Sharna has held many fun and creative jobs throughout her career. While her primary professional competency is in communications, it is her passion to help students achieve language and visual art success that matters most. In other words, she loves helping young people develop self-confidence through self-expression. As a Teaching Artist with Woodruff Arts Center, she developed Young Audiences' first language arts program – "You've Got To Blog It: Expressing Yourself In A Digital Era." Through interactive workshops, shared through on Georgia Council for the Arts Teaching Artist Registry, students learn writing, art, and digital tools to create a professional blog. The program meets Georgia ELA Standards. Sharna also has been empowering girls through after school programming since 2010. To learn more, visit [www.chloepink.com](http://www.chloepink.com).

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[Back to top](#)

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**Trelani Duncan**

**Contact:**

Phone: (912) 349-9639  
 Email: [Trelani@SoFundamental.com](mailto:Trelani@SoFundamental.com)  
 Website: <http://SoFundamental.com>

**Disciplines:**

Storytelling, Poetry/Spoken Word, Creative Writing

**Grade Levels:**

1-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Summary Description:**

Over the past four years, Trelani has instructed elementary, middle, high school, and college students on subjects ranging from creative writing to grammar. In the last two years, she has also transitioned her 11-year-old son into a home-based, self-directed learning environment. These opportunities allowed her to teach all styles of learners and foster meaningful and engaging learning environments that promote autonomy, self-efficacy, critical thinking, and collaboration. Her greatest strength as a teaching artist is helping students release shame around personal experiences and begin seeing those experiences as fundamental building blocks for community-based expertise.

[Read More >](#)[Back to top](#)**Wendy Bennett****Contact:**

Phone: (770) 641-1260 x223

Email: [bookings@get.org](mailto:bookings@get.org)Website: <http://get.org/get-arts-education/>**Disciplines:**

Music, Theatre/Drama, Storytelling

**Grade Levels:**

Pre-K, K-2, 3-4

**Summary Description:**

Wendy Bennett delivers highly interactive, fun, curriculum-based musical theater programs to children all over the Atlanta and surrounding areas. Wendy earned her BFA in Music education from Miami University in Ohio and is a graduate of The Alliance Theater's Acting Intern Program. She sang with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra for its Symphony Street Concerts and various Family Concerts for 14 years from 2000 to 2014 and has toured her children's shows with Young Audiences for 25 years. Wendy uses her lovely voice, puppets, colorful props, and guitar to bring memorable programs designed to enhance curriculum and make learning fun.

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